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FM AMCONSUL LAGOS
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8431
INFO RUEHZK/ECOWAS COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
RUEHCD/AMCONSUL CIUDAD JUAREZ PRIORITY 0087
RUEHIT/AMCONSUL ISTANBUL PRIORITY 0094
RUEHSO/AMCONSUL SAO PAULO PRIORITY 0108
RUFOADA/JAC MOLESWORTH AFB UK PRIORITY
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
RUCPDOG/DEPT OF COMMERCE WASHDC PRIORITY
RHEBAAA/DEPT OF ENERGY WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHDC PRIORITY
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
RHEFDIA/DIA WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 000063

SIPDIS

SIPDIS

STATE FOR AF/W
STATE FOR INR/AA
CIUDAD JUAREZ FOR DONNA BLAIR
ISTANBUL FOR TASHAWNA SMITH
SAO PAULO FOR ANDREW WITHERSPOON

E.O. 12958: DECL: 02/01/2017
TAGS: [EPET](#) [ENERG](#) [CASC](#) [ASEC](#) [PTER](#) [NI](#)
SUBJECT: SITREP #6: AMCIT & BRITISH NATIONAL REMAIN IN
CAPTIVITY

REF: A. LAGOS 62
[1](#)B. LAGOS 61
[1](#)C. LAGOS 57
[1](#)D. LAGOS 53
[1](#)E. LAGOS 47

Classified By: Consul Alan Latimer for reasons 1.4 (b and d)

[1](#)1. (C) The Pivot-GIS Hostage Crisis Group met February 1. Wole Osinupebi of Pivot and John Walker of Control Risks traveled to Port Harcourt January 31 and met with Director of the State Security Services (SSS) Alhaji Kola Adeshina. Osinupebi and Walker spoke to American citizen Billy Graham and British national Neil Mirrlees. Graham's condition is satisfactory; Mirrlees has not eaten in five days. Walker said Mirrlees has a stomach problem, sounded weak, and is probably dehydrated.

[1](#)2. (C) Walker told Adeshina that based on humanitarian grounds (given Mirrlees health) it would be appropriate to secure their release as soon as possible. The negotiations to date have resulted in a reduction in the ransom price to naira 70 million (approximately USD 560,000). A second line of communication, run by a "facilitator," is expected to provide SSS with sufficient evidence to make an arrest after a payment demanded by the kidnappers is delivered. Adeshina said the hostages will be brought directly to SSS offices upon release.

BROWNE